

BRIAN PULIDO'S

Lady Death



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ISSUE 2 / RYP

 AVATAR™

ABANDON
ALL HOPE

BRIAN PULIDO'S

Lady Death

ABANDON ALL HOPE

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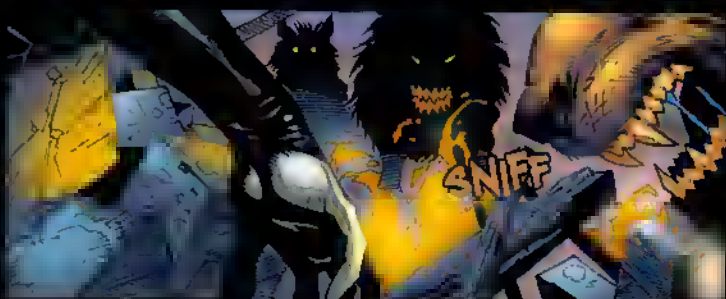
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DEEP INSIDE THE
LABYRINTH LIES THE
BLACKLANDS, A REALM
OF INFINITE HORRORS.

MOMENTS AGO, LADY DEATH
AND HER MENTOR'S WARGOTH
AND SATASHA, HAD THE
TEMPLE OF KARRION BROUGHT
DOWN ON THEM BY SAGOS.



SNIFF

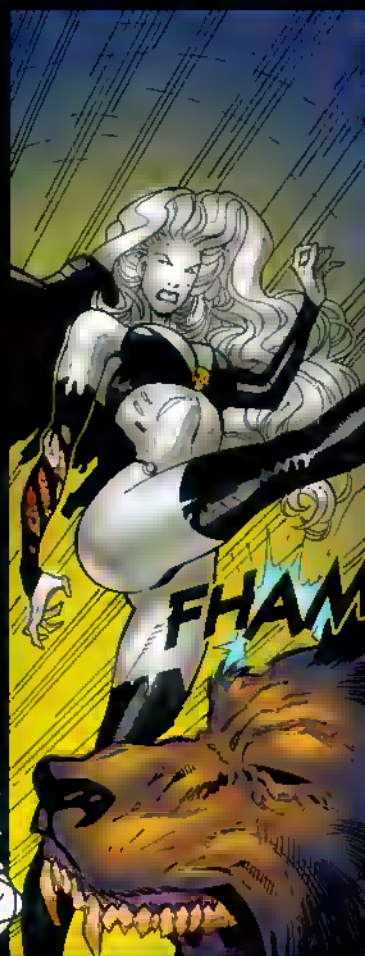
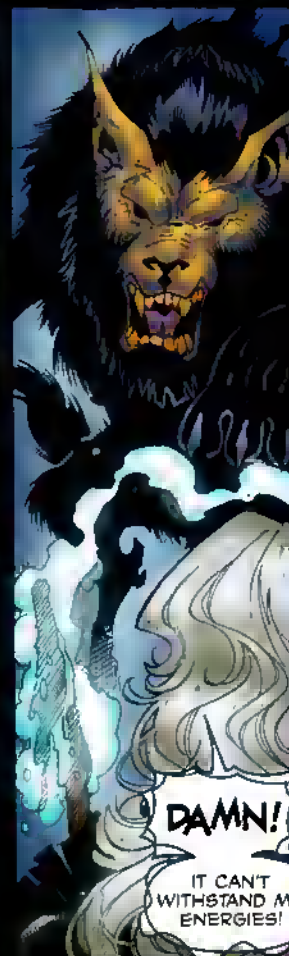
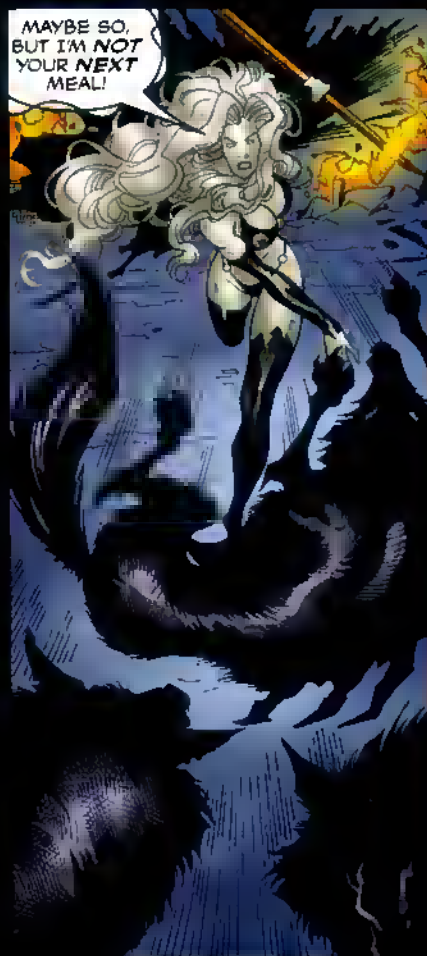
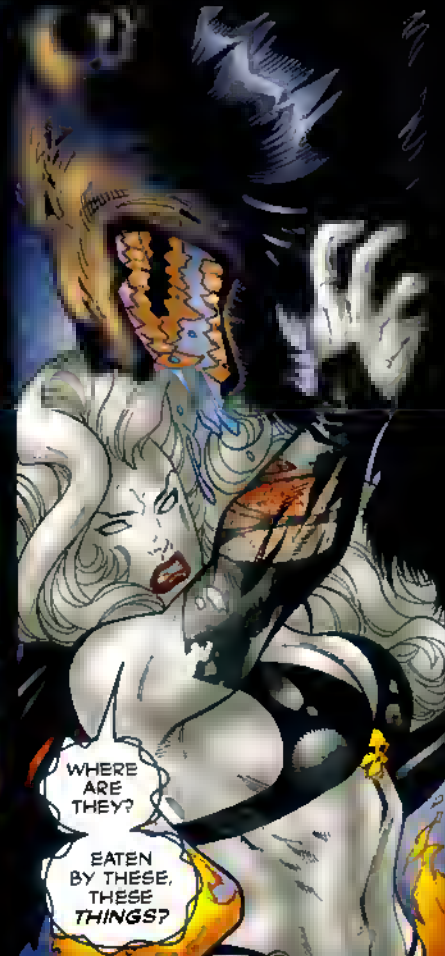


RRRR



KER-ACK!

ERGH HHH





COME ON!

COME ON!

OH, YOU'RE DOCILE NOW.

YOU RESPECT YOUR BETTER!



LADY DEATH!

YOU MADE IT! AND NOW YOU HAVE--

WARGOTH!

SATASHA!



--PETS?

THEY CHOSE ME.



WHERE WERE YOU?

I DON'T TRUST YOU, WARGOTH.



GOOD.

NOW YOU'RE LEARNING.

THANKS FOR THE SAVE SPELL, SATASHA. THAT WAS CLOSE.

I CONSIDERED LETTING YOU FEND FOR YOURSELF.



HOPE, I'LL RESTORE OUR GARMENTS.

AMAZING.

COME ALONG. THIS IS NO TIME FOR FASHION.

WE HAVE MUCH DISTANCE TO TRAVEL.

IS HE ALWAYS LIKE THIS?

HE LIKES YOU..

...IMAGINE IF
HE DIDN'T.

RARANDA, CAPITAL
OF AUGUSTI.

POPULATION TWENTY
TWO THOUSAND.

HEEEELP!

KILL THE
WOMEN AND
CHILDREN
FIRST.

THAT'LL STEAL
THE FIGHT OUT
OF THEIR MEN
FOLK!

IN
THE NAME OF
OUR UNDER LORD
SAGOS, DIE AND
JOIN US!

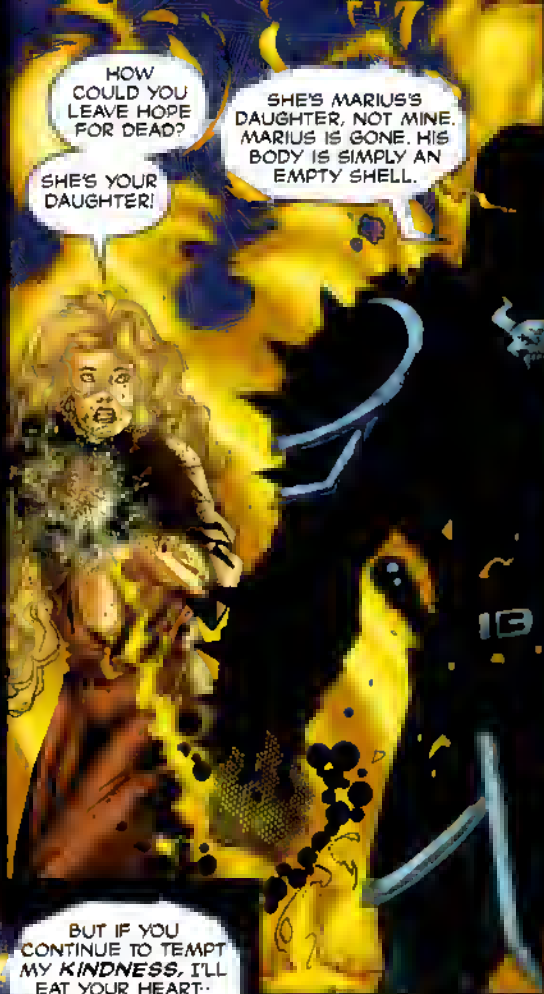
ERGHHHHH!

HOW
GOES THE
CONVERSION,
REMLOCK?



FLAWLESS
LORD
SAGOS

THE
RARANDANS
WERE CAUGHT OFF
GUARD. THEY'LL JOIN
YOUR INFERNAL ARMY
BEFORE DAY FALL.



HOW
COULD YOU
LEAVE HOPE
FOR DEAD?

SHE'S YOUR
DAUGHTER!

SHE'S MARIUS'S
DAUGHTER, NOT MINE.
MARIUS IS GONE. HIS
BODY IS SIMPLY AN
EMPTY SHELL.



THIS IS A
NIGHTMARE!

RELEASE
ME OR **KILL**
ME!

MARY,
YOU ARE FAR
TOO ENTERTAINING
TO GIFT YOU WITH
DEATH'S SWEET
RELEASE.



BUT IF YOU
CONTINUE TO TEMPT
MY **KINDNESS**, I'LL
EAT YOUR HEART-
AND **FEED** IT
BACK TO YOU!



WHICH
CITY DO WE
STRIKE NEXT,
LORD?

THE ONE
THEY LEAST
SUSPECT.

THE FOREST OF
THE DAMNED.

YOU
WILL BE ABLE TO
HEAL YOURSELF
SOON, HOPE. YOU'LL
BE ABLE TO RESTORE
YOUR GARMENTS
AS WELL.

WHEN?

WHEN
WILL MY
TRAINING
BEGIN?

IT
ALREADY
HAS.

YOU
AND YOUR
RIDDLES,
WARGOTH.

PATIENCE,
HOPE.

OUR
ENCOUNTER
WITH SAGOS
REVEALED
MUCH.

HIS
CLOAKING SKILLS
ARE UNPARALLELED.
HE CANNOT BE FOUND
BY MIGHT OR MAGIC
UNLESS HE MAKES
A MISTAKE.

BUT I'VE
COMMUNED
WITH THE OLD
GODS OF THE
RED CLAN.

SAGOS'S
UNDEAD ARMY
HAS CONVERTED
YET ANOTHER
CITY.

RARANDA

I DON'T
CARE ABOUT
YOUR CITIES!

I SIMPLY
WANT TO **FREE**
MY MOTHER
AND RETURN
HOME!

YOU
ARROGANT...

DON'T
YOU REALIZE
WHAT HAPPENED
A FEW HOURS
AGO?

SAGOS TOYED WITH
US. IF HE DESIRED IT, WE
WOULD HAVE ALL BEEN
DESTROYED! YET FOR
SOME REASON, HE
LET US LIVE.

IF
WE DON'T
ACT SOON, I
FEAR HE MAY
BECOME UN-
STOPPABLE. THEN
YOUR MOTHER WILL
NEVER BE FREE
AND YOU WILL
NEVER GO
HOME.

YOU TWO
ARGUE

IT
IS UP TO **US**
TO STOP HIM, BUT
YOU ARE NOT
REMOVEDLY
READY!

I'M
TIRED



YOU
SAID HE
TOYED WITH
US!

HOW
CAN WE **BEST**
HIM? HOW CAN I
HELP? WEAPONS
MELT IN MY HANDS.
I KNOW NO
SPELLS...

YOU
HAVE **VAST**
UNTAPPED POWERS
AT YOUR DISPOSAL.
BUT YOU ARE
UNFOCUSED.



DO YOU REMEMBER OUR
FIRST MEETING MONTHS
AGO... AT THE HELLMOUTH?
THAT'S WHEN I KNEW YOU
WERE OUR KEY TO VICTORY.

MOTHER?

WHERE
ARE YOU?!

OH...



...NO!



GOD!
PLEASE,
NO!

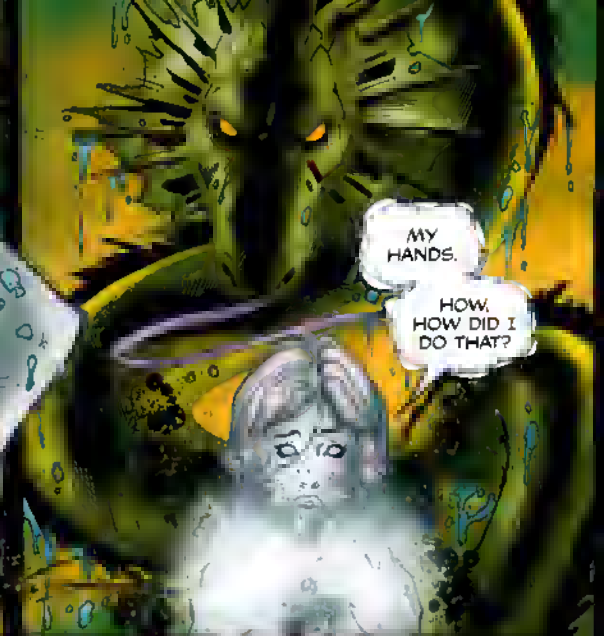
WHERE
AM I?!



HELP!



GET
AWAY FROM
ME!

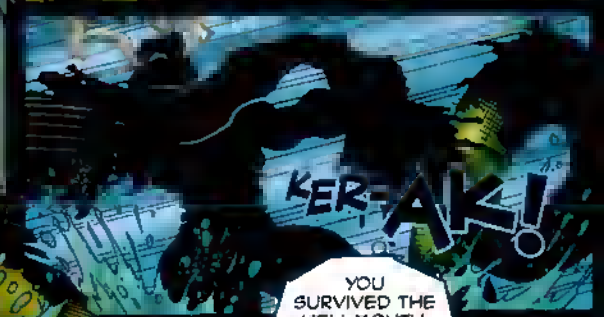


MY
HANDS.

HOW,
HOW DID I
DO THAT?



HIIII



YOU
SURVIVED THE
HELLMOUTH.
MOST NEVER
DO.



THOSE
SPELLS YOU
CAST. WHERE
DO YOU COME
FROM?

SPELLS?

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN? WHO
ARE YOU?



I AM
WARGOTH
OF THE RED
CLANS.

CALL ME
HOPE.

I'M
FROM EUROPE.
WHERE
AM I?

YOU'RE FROM
THE UPPER
KINGDOMS?



THIS IS THE
BLACKLANDS.

YOU
CAME HERE
OF YOUR OWN
CHOOSING?

OF COURSE!
I'M HERE TO FIND
SAGOS, THE DEMON
WHO KIDNAPPED
MY MOTHER.



SAGOS
YOU SAY?

INTERESTING.



COME
ALONG.

THE BLACKLANDS
IS A DANGEROUS PLACE
FILLED WITH LIARS, THIEVES
AND MENACES BEYOND
YOUR IMAGINING. LUCKY
FOR YOU, HOPE YOU
SHOW POTENTIAL.

YOU MAY
LIVE.



CATACOMBEA, TRADING
MECCA OF THE CENTRAL
BLACKLANDS.

SATASHA?

SATASHA
RAVENTHORNE?



MAY
MAKLU BLESS
ME NOW THAT
WARGOTH THE RED
HAS ENTERED MY
LIFE YET
AGAIN.

YOU
AND I ARE
FINISHED,
WARGOTH.

SEE
YOURSELF
TO THE
DOOR.



I NEED
YOUR HELP
SATASHA.

SAGOS
IS ON THE
MOVE.

SAGOS?
GO ON, I'M
LISTENING

I'VE BROUGHT
SOMEONE FOR
YOU TO MEET.

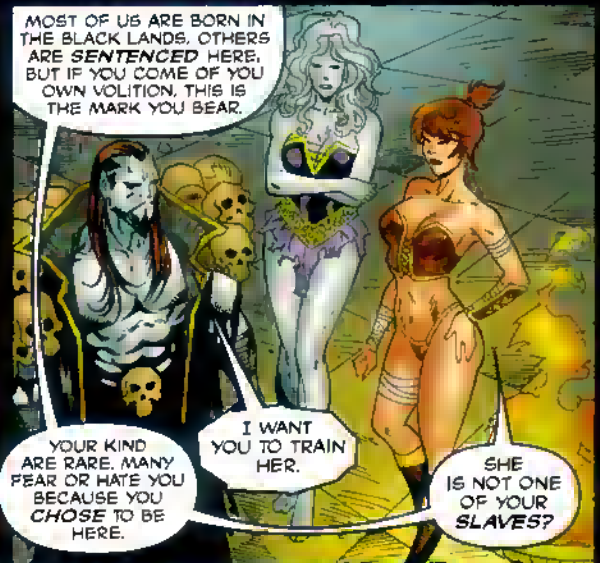


SHE'S
ALBINO!

I'M NOT
ALBINO!

NO?
THEN
LOOK!

OH! MY
SKIN! MY
EYES!



MOST OF US ARE BORN IN
THE BLACK LANDS. OTHERS
ARE SENTENCED HERE.
BUT IF YOU COME OF YOUR
OWN VOLITION, THIS IS
THE MARK YOU BEAR.

YOUR KIND
ARE RARE. MANY
FEAR OR HATE YOU
BECAUSE YOU
CHOSE TO BE
HERE.

I WANT
YOU TO TRAIN
HER.

SHE
IS NOT ONE
OF YOUR
SLAVES?



SLAVE?!

BEWARE OF
WARGOTH, GIRL.
HE IS NOT TO BE
TRIFLED
WITH.

ENOUGH
SATASHA

YOU
FORGET I
SAVED YOUR
LIFE TOO.

IS THIS
HOW YOU ME
SHOW YOUR
GRATITUDE?

THE FIELDS OF THE NEPHILIM.

WARGOTH, I'M PICKING UP POWERFUL ELEMENTAL ENERGY.

IT'S SLOW MOVING.

YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, DON'T YOU?

I DO.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO WARN LADY DEATH?

NO, I'M NOT.

...

SSSSSSSSSSSSSS

HELP.

WARGOTH,
I'M PICKING
UP POWERFUL
ELEMENTAL
ENERGY.

IT'S
SLOW
MOVING.

YOU
KNOW WHAT
THAT MEANS,
DON'T YOU?

I DO.

AREN'T
YOU GOING TO
WARN LADY
DEATH?

NO, I'M NOT.

4

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

HELP



YOU ARE
FACING A
THRALLKOR!

DO NOT
SHOW ANY
HOSTILITY!



BOW
BEFORE
IT.

YOU
CANNOT
WIN.

TRUST
ME.

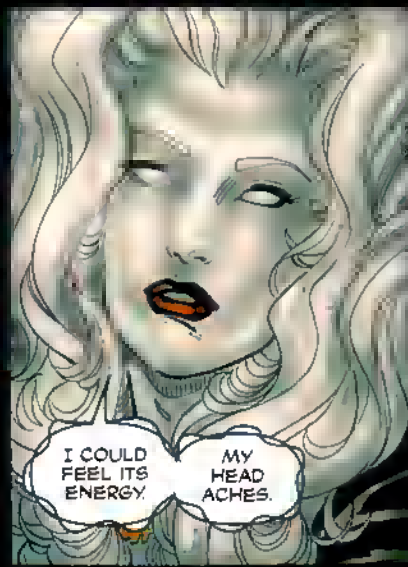


DO AS
HE SAYS
HOPE.





GOOD.



I COULD
FEEL ITS
ENERGY.

MY
HEAD
ACHES.



ITS
PRESENCE
WOULD MELT
LESSER
MINDS.

I SUPPOSE
YOU DIDN'T
WARN ME FOR
A REASON?

THERE'S A
LESSON IN
THIS?

YES.



EVERY-
THING IS
NOT WHAT IT
SEEMS.

THRALLKORS
ARE FEARFUL
CREATURES. OUR
INSTINCTUAL RESPONSE
IS TO ATTACK THEM.
BUT THEY COUNTER
AGGRESSION WITH
AGGRESSION.

NONE OF
US COULD
SURVIVE THE
ATTACK.

THEIR POWER IS
UNFATHOMABLE.



ASAWA, CITY ON THE
DESERT'S EDGE.

YOU
UNDERSTAND
THE PLAN?

I DON'T
LIKE IT.

IF YOU WANT
A WEAPON,
YOU'LL HAVE
TO TRUST
ME.

RIGHT,
BUT I DON'T
HAVE TO
LIKE IT.







THE SLUMS
OF ASAWA.

ANY
SPARE
DOLMACHS,
SIRE?

MOVE.



LYGORT.

LYGORT,
YOU
AROUND?



'GOTH,
YOU OLD WAR
HORSE!

HOW
GOES THE
SLAVE
TRADE?

I GOT
OUT.

UH..
OKAY I GOT
THE MAP
YOU WERE
AFTER.

IT
LEADS TO THE
FANGHORN RIVER.
THE RIVER GRANTS
KNOWLEDGE OF
ELEMENTAL SPELLS TO
THOSE WHO BATHE IN
IT. YOU KNOW THAT
RIGHT?

YOU
TALK TOO
MUCH.

BUT
LOOK.

IT IS NEARLY
IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH.
MOST WHO BATHE IN
ITS WATERS ARE
DESTROYED INSTANTLY.

WHAT
ARE YOU
PLANNING?



LET
ME TELL
YOU...

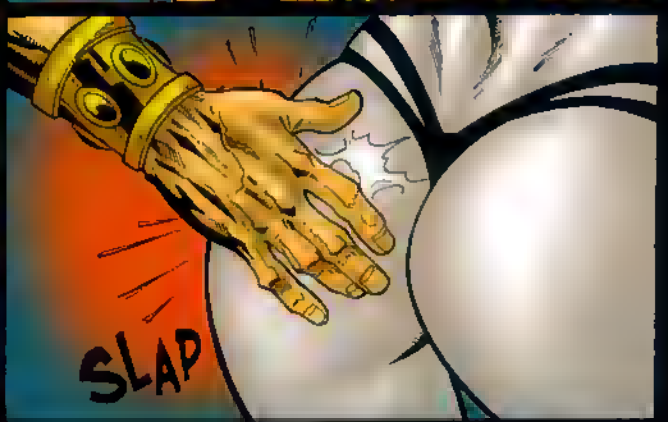
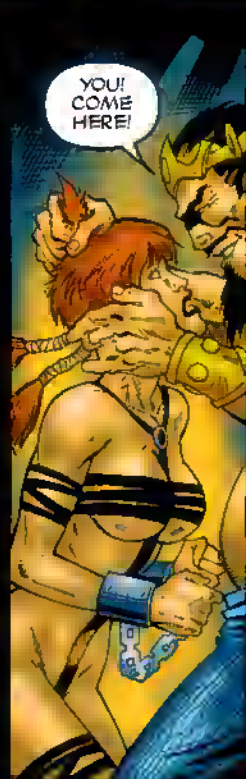
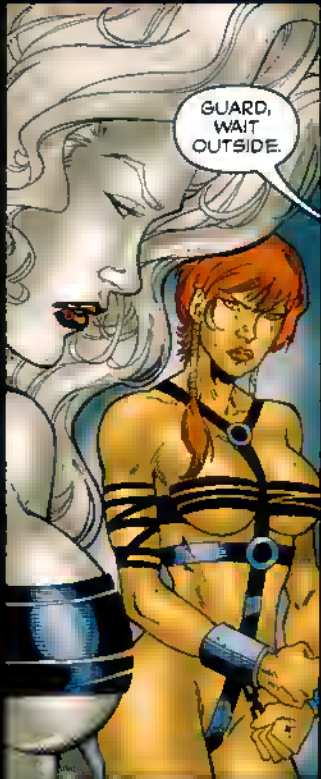


A FEW MINUTES
LATER.

SIMPLY AMAZING.
'GOTH. HOW YOU
COME UP WITH THIS
STUFF, I DON'T
KNOW.

TO OLD
TIMES

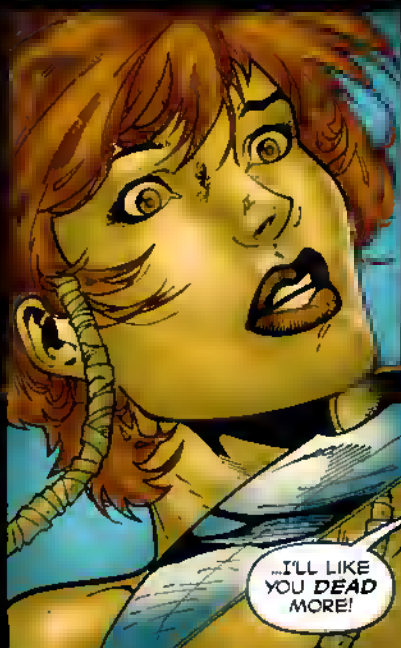
I'LL DRINK
TO THAT MY
FRIEND





YES
FIGHT ME
I LIKE
THAT.

BUT
I MUST
ADMIT.

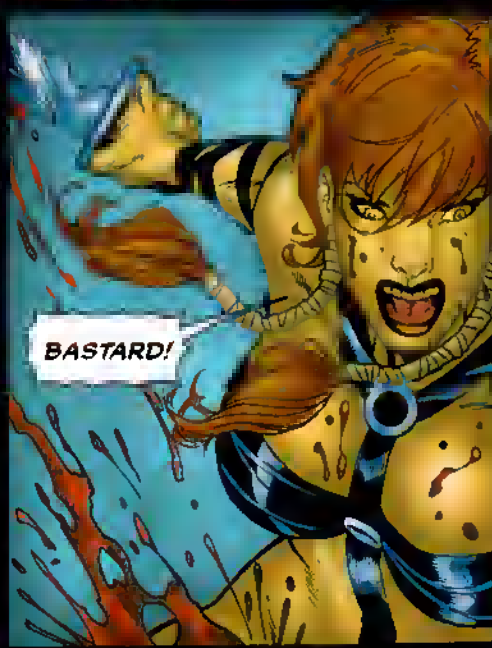


...I'LL LIKE
YOU DEAD
MORE!



PIG!

GET YOUR
FILTHY
HANDS OFF
HER!



BASTARD!



COME
ON!

THERE'S
NO NEED
FOR THE
RUSE.

RESTORE
OUR GARMENTS,
SATASHA. THESE
OTHERS MAKE
ME SICK.

DONE.



WARGOTH
SAID THE SWORD
HAS SPECIAL
PROPERTIES.

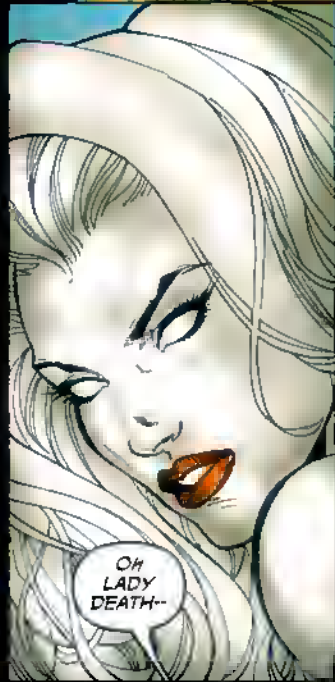
DARE I
TRY TO INFUSE
IT WITH
ENERGY?

DO IT!



LADY DEATH
SHOULD BE
GETTING QUITE
A SURPRISE
RIGHT ABOUT
NOW.

'GOTH YOU
ARE THE
WORST!



OH
LADY
DEATH--



--GOING
SOMEWHERE?!

SATASHA,
THE KING
LIVES!

SATASHA?
WHERE
ARE YOU?
SATASHA?

DAMN IT!
THEY SET
ME UP!

NOTHING
IS WHAT IT
SEEMS.

CONTINUED...